



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

R Kent
2/3/03
#18/D

Applicant : Pacifici
Serial No. : 09/862,976 Examiner : Carter, Monica Smith
Filed : May 22, 2001 Art Unit : 3722
FOR : METHOD AND COMPOSITIONS FOR BINDING LOOSE SHEETS

AMENDMENT

BY EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: ET346769645US

January 22, 2003

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

On November 22, 2002, Applicants filed an Amendment, including a one-month extension of time, in response to the Final Official Action dated July 22, 2002. The proposed amendment was not entered by the Examiner, because she asserted that the amendment of the claims to positively claim irreversible binding of the sheets introduced new matter that necessitated further search and consideration. The Examiner therefore maintained the rejection of Claims 1-7 and 10-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). However, the Examiner did indicate that Applicant's November 22, 2002 response adequately addressed her objections to the Drawings and her rejection of Claim 14 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112.

To advance the prosecution of the above-identified application, Applicants herein submit a Request for Continued Examination. Also enclosed is (i) an Amendment in